



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tadao KIKUMOTO Examiner: unassigned
Serial No.: 10/806,662 Group Art Unit: 2641
Filed: 03/23/2004 Docket: 230980-0248
Title: VOCODER SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR VOCAL SOUND SYNTHESIS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, in an envelope with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313 on July 1, 2004.

By: _____

Richard Ruggiero
Richard Ruggiero

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (In duplicate)
- ☒ Form PTO-Form SB08
- ☒ Copies of Cited References (7)
- ☒ Return postcard

Please charge any fees associated with this transmittal to Deposit Account No: 50-0872. **A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.**

Date: July 1, 2004

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Atty. Dkt. No. 230980-0248

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Examiner: Unknown
Art Unit: 2641

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| <p>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.</p> <p><u>RICHARD RUGGIERO</u> (Printed Name)</p> <p><u>Richard Ruggiero</u> (Signature)</p> <p><u>JULY 1, 2004</u> (Date of Deposit)</p> |
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document, except as noted below, is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) to submit copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications when citing and submitting an Information Disclosure Statements in a patent application filed after June 30, 2003 and in an international application that has entered the national stage under 37 USC §371 after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of these types of documents are not being supplied in connection with this application. Reference is being made to Pre-OG Notice from Office of Patent Legal Administration dated July 25, 2003, *Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003.*

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

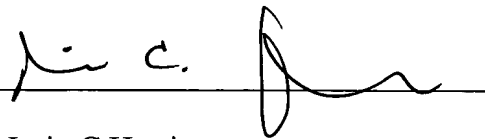
All of the documents are in English.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-0872.

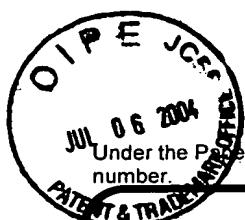
Respectfully submitted,

Date 2-1-04

By 

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Date Submitted: July 1, 2004

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

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|------------------------|----------------|
| Application Number | 10/806,662 |
| Filing Date | 03/23/2004 |
| First Named Inventor | Tadao KIKUMOTO |
| Group Art Unit | 2641 |
| Examiner Name | UNKNOWN |
| Attorney Docket Number | 230980-0248 |

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. Patent Document | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| | A1 | 5,231,671 | | Gibson et al | 07/27/1993 | |
| | A2 | 5,301,259 | | Gibson et al | 04/05/1994 | |
| | A3 | 5,401,897 | | Depalle et al | 03/28/1995 | |
| | A4 | 5,567,901 | | Gibson et al | 10/22/1996 | |
| | A5 | 5,641,926 | | Gibson et al | 06/24/1997 | |
| | A6 | 5,986,198 | | Gibson et al | 11/16/1999 | |
| | A7 | 6,046,395 | | Gibson et al | 04/04/2000 | |
| | A8 | 6,336,092 | | Gibson et al | 01/01/2002 | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|----------------|
| | | Office ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| | A9 | Voice Quality Conversion in TD-Psola Speech Synthesis – Xuejing Sung – Speech Acoustics Laboratory, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders – Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60208, USA – pp 1-4 | |
| | A10 | Synthesizing a choir in real-time using Pitch Synchronous Overlap Add (PSOLA) – Norbert Schnell, Geoffroy Peeters, Serge Lemouton, Philippe Manoury, Xavier Rodet – IRCAM – Centre Georges-Pompidou – 1, pl. Igor Stravinsky, F-75004 Paris France – www.ircam.fr – 7 pages | |
| | A11 | WEB-SLS – The European Student Journal of Language and Speech – “A NEW APPROACH TO THE EVALUATION OF VOCAL EFFORT BY THE PSOLA METHOD” – A. Tassa and J.S. Lienard – 16 pages | |
| | A12 | Data Sheet - VoiceWorks – Vocals on Target? – TC Helicon – Vocal Technologies – www.tc-helicon.com | |
| | A13 | Data Sheet - Quintet – Vocals on Target? – TC Helicon – Vocal Technologies – www.tc-helicon.com | |
| | A14 | Brochure – Powercore Rackmount Quality Processing Solution for MAC and PC – Edition 1/2003 - TC Works – Ultimate Software Machines | |
| | A15 | Brochure – Voice your Inspiration – Native Instruments Software Synthesis – Vokator – Voice your Inspiration – www.native-instruments.com | |

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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